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HURRICANE HARVEY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Information contained in this report reflects HQ and regional reporting from the most recently completed operational period as well as other reports provided by HQ, regional and interagency sources. The Senior Leadership Briefing is attached.

National Incident Management Objectives

- Objective 1: Ensure that health and safety of the EPA response is considered at all times.
- Objective 2: Establish an incident management structure and processes employing the Incident Command System to enable effective overall management of the event with deployment of resources (staff and equipment) in a rapid, aggressive and well-coordinated manner.
- Objective 3: Ensure prompt Review and Processing of Fuel Waiver requests.
- Objective 4: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment of Industrial facilities as requested by the State or under EPA's statutory program responsibilities for CERCLA Superfund, RMP and FRP facilities. Working with our state partners, contact industrial sources within the impacted area to determine their operational status and determine what support can be provided with the monitoring of the start-up of industrial sources.
- Objective 5: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment & Technical Assistance Drinking Water & Wastewater facilities as requested by the State or local government. EPA will support our state partners in contacting drinking water and waste water systems.
- Objective 6: Prepare a Sustained Response Plan that outlines the resource and equipment needs for a long duration response.
- Objective 7: Activate the Agency's Crisis Communication Plan to insure effective and efficient coordination of all incident communications.
- Objective 8: Encourage a collaborative federalism approach, where national, state and local governments interact cooperatively and collectively to solve common problems.
- Objective 9: Begin Agency internal and external coordination, under the National Disaster Recovery Framework, regarding Recovery Support Functions in which EPA is likely to be involved.

Executive Summary

- EPA issued a news release highlighting Administrator Pruitt's visit to Houston on September 15th. During his visit, he reviewed the Agency's response efforts in areas affected by Hurricane Harvey, including a tour of the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site and meetings with state and federal officials. Administrator Pruitt also participated in an aerial tour of additional Superfund Sites including Patrick Bayou, U.S. Oil Recovery, Highlands Acid Pits, French Unlimited, Brio Refining, and Dixie Oil Processors.
- EPA completed sampling of all 34 Texas Superfund sites potentially impacted by the storm on September 15th. EPA has released 15 post-hurricane Superfund site summaries based on preliminary data on the www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey website.
- EPA's dive team finished collecting samples at the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund site on September 15th and demobilized from the site. Results of the analyses will be used to ensure the temporary cap of the site did not release contaminants. The responsible party continues to repair the armored layer of the cap.
- All three branches of Unified Command continue recovering and staging orphan containers for proper disposal:
 - The Corpus Christi branch is transitioning the remaining open sites to the appropriate TCEQ Regional Office for closeout;
 - All containers on the staging pad will be transferred to the Houston branch by September 18th before being shipped for disposal. Recovery activities should be completed in 20 days; and
 - The Port Arthur/Beaumont branch is projected to complete recovery activities within 10 days.
- Community Liaison teams continue to provide information regarding returning to flooded areas and handling of house-hold waste in the counties of Aransas, San Patricio, Nueces, Wharton, Harris, Jasper, Newton, Montgomery, Fort Bend, Liberty, Brazoria, Galveston, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Jefferson, Orange, Chambers, Matagorda, and Baytown.
- TCEQ is requesting FEMA increase EPA's ESF-10 Mission Assignment by \$8.3 million in stages. Once fully approved, this will bring the total funding for assessment and response to \$18.3 million.
- Drinking water and wastewater assessment teams completed their emergency assessments of community water systems and demobilized on September 15th. A total of 625 drinking water and 441 wastewater assessments were performed. Of the 2,022 systems designated for follow up, EPA's collaborative work with the state has ensured the return of 1,945 community water systems to fully operational status. These systems cover 99% of the population in the greater Houston area (7.23 out of 7.26 million served). The remaining system restorations and lifting of boil water notices oversight will be transitioned to the TCEQ regional offices.

Region 6 Significant Activities

The R6 Region Emergency Operations Center (REOC) is currently activated and working under a limited Emergency Support Function (ESF) #10 FEMA Mission Assignment (MA). EPA has received MAs for over \$10.3 million for recovery operations to include assisting TX with drinking water, wastewater, and hazmat recovery operations. FEMA announced plans to fund mission assignments in five-day increments.

Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
4332DR-TX-EPA-03	\$10,092,000	R6 Field Ops incl. assessing drinking & waste water infrastructure, implementation of Response Manager tracking system, response to hazardous substance releases and oil discharges.
4332DR-TX-EPA-01	\$275,000	Deployment of EPA to various locations, including but not limited to TX EOC and the FEMA RRCC to support response operations.
Total	\$10,367,000	

Number of Region 6 Personnel Involved

Personnel	EPA R6 Dallas	FEMA Denton	Texas JFO Austin	TX SOC Austin	TCEQ Austin	Houston	Corpus Christi	Beaumont/ Port Arthur	Totals
R6	57	0	2	3	0	74	12	9	157
START	4	0	0	1	0	5	8	9	27
ERRS	0	0	0	0	0	14	4	15	33
Other Contractor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	61	0	2	4	0	93	24	33	217

Debris Recovery Operations

A Federal Debris Management Taskforce was established at the JFO in Austin and EPA is a member of the Taskforce. Joint EPA and TCEQ field observation teams continue to observe debris staging and landfill operations within the hurricane impacted counties in Texas to ensure best practices and program requirements are being met. FEMA estimates debris to total 16.5 million cubic yards. Observations were completed at 81 sites in the Houston area on September 14th and 15th; observations will begin in Corpus Christi on September 18th.

Container Recovery Operations

This chart includes daily and cumulative data on container recovery.

Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date – Containers and Cylinders					
	Drums [55 gals]	Small Containers [<55 gals]	Large Containers [>55 gals]	Cylinders	Total
9/17/2017	24	22	7	13	66
Total	337	213	26	81	657

Corpus Christi Branch

Orphaned containers were transferred from the Corpus Christi Branch to the staging area at the Houston Branch. From there, waste and containers will be shipped for disposal. One additional container was recovered on September 16th and will be transferred to the Houston Branch by September 18th.

The Oil/Vessel Discharge Recovery Team continued salvage operations on the Signet Enterprise at Aransas Pass.

Houston Branch

The Oil Discharge Assessment Team conducted an assessment of a leaking orphan container in Tomball. The orphan container was not leaking, but was recovered and taken to the staging area. The team also conducted booming operations around a disabled shrimp boat located in Dickinson's Bayou as a protective measure in case a discharge occurred from the vessel.

Orphan Container Recovery Teams recovered orphan containers and assessed sites in Fort Bend, Walker, Harris, and Montgomery counties to determine what specialized equipment, personnel, and level of personal protective equipment will be required prior to physical recovery.

Beaumont/Port Arthur Branch

The Orphan Container Recovery Teams removed approximately 430 gallons of diesel from two tanks at Rose City Sand Corp in Vidor and recovered the tanks. The team also placed sorbent boom around the Display Train Engine in Port Arthur.

Emergency and Field Response Operations

Region 6 continues to collect and stage recovered orphan containers. They anticipate completion in Corpus Christi, Houston, and Beaumont over the next 20 days.

Daily & Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Location	Opened		Closed	
	9/17/2017	Number of Targets	9/17/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi	0	5	1	100
Houston	1	32	35	354
Port Arthur/Beaumont	1	21	18	108
NRC Reports	0	1	1	4
Total	2	59	55	566
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item.				

Daily & Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges (non-vessels)				
Location	Opened		Closed	
	9/17/17	Number of Facilities/Spills	9/17/17	Cumulative
Corpus Christi	0	0	0	33
Houston	0	3	1	75
Port Arthur/Beaumont	0	7	2	18

NRC Reports	5	18	1	106
Total	5	28	4	232
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered/cleaned up. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by a Responsible Party or not found upon return to location.				

Number of Field Team Personnel on September 17 th				
Teams	Corpus Christi	Houston	Port Arthur/ Beaumont	Total
Hazard Evaluation	0	1	1	2
Oil Discharge Assessment	0	3	0	3
ER/Orphan Container Recovery	1	14	3	18
Oil/Vessel Recovery	5	0	0	5
Staging Areas	1	1	1	3
Air Operations	0	1	0	1
Air Monitoring	0	0	0	0
Drinking Water Infrastructure Assessment	0	0	0	0
Wastewater Infrastructure Assessment	0	0	0	0
Total	7	20	5	32

Superfund NPL Sites

- EPA provided oversight to potentially responsible parties (PRPs) and independently started collecting samples at 34 TX Superfund Sites and nine LA Sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. The sampling is part of a longer term assessment that will be used to transition sites back to normal cleanup operations. Preliminary un-validated results for sites located in Texas are expected by September 17th and for the sites located in Louisiana by September 18th.
- All 43 Federal Superfund sites in the affected area have been assessed. Of these, 41 sites have been cleared, and two sites (San Jacinto Pits and US Oil) require additional follow-up.
 - San Jacinto Waste Pits: The responsible party (RP) completed all manual probing activities of the cap on September 14th. On September 15th, the EPA Dive Team collected underwater sediment samples for dioxin/furan analysis in areas where gaps in the cap were found. The PRPs' dive team is collecting sediment samples from the same areas for the same analysis. The RP submitted, and EPA approved the cap repair work plan on September 15th. The RP began maintenance work on September 16th.

- US Oil: No storm water was shipped on September 16th. Since the time the pump down operations began, after hurricane landfall, a total of 64 truckloads of storm water (approximately 320,000 gallons) have been removed from the Site and disposed of in an off-site permitted facility. The PRP group will monitor the lift station freeboard levels over the weekend and perform additional pump-downs if needed.

Air Monitoring

TAGA did not conduct any monitoring on September 16th. TAGA will resume monitoring on September 17th in Texas City and move to Sweeny.

Drinking Water/Wastewater Assessments

As of September 14th, drinking water and wastewater assessments have been completed. The remaining systems have been transitioned to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for completion.

EPA Headquarters Significant Activities:

The HQ EOC is activated to Level 1 in support of the Region 6 response for Hurricane Harvey. The HQ EOC is coordinating with Region 6 and other Federal agencies. Personnel have also deployed to the FEMA NRCC to staff the ESF-10 desk. EPA Senior Management that comprise the Policy Coordinating Committee (PCC) developed and issued senior management objectives that form the basis of field strategy and tactics in response to Harvey.

Headquarters Mission Assignments

Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
MA4332DRTX1	\$10,000	FEMA HQ ESF-10 Desk Support
4332DRTXEPA02	\$40,000	FEMA HQ ESF-10 Desk Support
Total	\$50, 000	

Number of HQ Personnel Involved in the EOC

Personnel	AO	OAR	OARM	OCFO	OCSP	OECA	OEI	OGC	OLEM	ORD	OW	ATSDR	Totals
Employees	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	11	1	1	1	20

Contractors	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	6
Total	1	0	1	0	0	2	4	1	14	1	1	1	26

Fuel Waivers

On September 15th, EPA issued three “no action assurance” (NAA) letters that are effective immediately and at the request of the State of Texas:

- A larger number of tanker trucks are needed to deliver fuel to some areas of Texas and Louisiana with damaged infrastructure and flooding. EPA will not pursue enforcement actions against tanker trucks for certain provisions of the Clean Air Act and parallel Texas regulations that relate to tank tightness and registration for tanker trucks. This no action assurance will terminate on September 22nd and is an extension of a no action assurance issued by EPA on September 1st.
- Due to infrastructure damage, Texas refineries are unable to operate at full capacity, which is causing gasoline shortages. EPA will not pursue enforcement actions that relate to violations of provisions of the Clean Air Act for emissions of certain air pollutants from gasoline storage tanks during events known as “roof landings.” This no action assurance will terminate on September 22nd and is an extension of a no action assurance issued by EPA on September 1st.
- Due to operational issues at bulk fuel terminals as a result of Hurricane Harvey, some facilities are not equipped with devices to capture or recover certain types of air pollutants. EPA will not pursue enforcement actions that relate to violations of provisions of the Clean Air Act that require the operation of these devices at bulk fuel terminals. This no action assurance will terminate on September 22nd and is an extension of a no action assurance issued by EPA on September 1st.

In addition, on September 15th, EPA issued a NAA letter to Yamaha Motor Corporation for the import of generators that will be donated to communities in Texas impacted by Hurricane Harvey. The generators are currently labeled to meet Canada’s requirements for sale with respect to emission information, not the United States’, thus their import would be a violation of EPA’s Clean Air Act. The generators will not emit air pollution above EPA standards. EPA will exercise its discretion not to pursue violations.

Affected State	Waiver Request	Date Received	Status Talking Point	Waiver Response
Reid Vapor Pressure Requirements Waivers				
TX	Letter from TCEQ requesting a waiver of the RVP, RFG and TxLED standards in the Governor’s Disaster Proclamation	8/25/17	Extended to October 1st	https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-acts-continue-waiver-fuel-requirements-texas

Affected State	Waiver Request	Date Received	Status Talking Point	Waiver Response
LA	Letter from LA governor requesting a waiver of the low RVP requirements.	8/28/17	Granted on 8/28/17	https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-08/documents/louisianafuelswaiver082817.pdf
AR	The state is drafting a waiver request to temporarily waive the requirement for low 9.0lb RVP fuel.	8/31/17	N/A	N/A
OK	A statewide low RVP fuel waiver request was submitted and then the request was amended.	8/28/17	8/30/17	https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/second-multi-state-fuels-waivers
Dyed NRLM Diesel Fuel Waiver				
TX	Letter from TX comptroller requesting a waiver of using dyed NRLM diesel fuel in motor vehicles.	8/29/17	Granted on 8/29/17; IRS expanded to cover all of TX on 9/3/17	https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/texas-diesel-waiver
Low Volatility Conventional Gasoline and Reformulated Gasoline (RFG)				
Multi State*	<p>*CT, ME, MA, NH, RH, VT, DE, DC, MD, NJ, NY, and PA, FL, GA, NC, SC, VA, and WV; all mid-western states located in *PADD 2 - IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, OH, OK, TN, and WI; and all Gulf coast states located in PADD 3 -AL, AR, LA, MS, NM, and TX</p> <p>Issuance of waivers based on requests for the allowance of regulated parties within the listed states to produce, sell, or distribute conventional winter gasoline (including BOBs) with an RVP of 11.5 psi before the addition of any ethanol in any RFG covered area. The waiver for El Paso goes until September 16th due to their State Implementation Plan requirements.</p>	8/30/17	Expired; no longer needed	https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/second-multi-state-fuels-waivers

*PADD: Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts

Communications

- The Crisis Communication Plan remains activated. EOC Public Information Officer (PIO) continues to work on developing fact sheets on issues regarding the recovery including how to handle household hazardous waste and other debris. Region 6 PIO and Data Management team created a *Region 6 Hurricane Harvey - Public Story Map*. The map is located at this link: <https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=fadbae6b2832436fb65ca497bd75b9a6>
- EPA issued a news release announcing that Administrator Pruitt approved a request from the State of Texas to continue to waive requirements for fuels in Texas through October 1. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-acts-continue-waiver-fuel-requirements-texas>